Depot Town Rag

Volume 17, Number 2 *"All the news in one block in one month."*

100% FREE
Rag Content
February 1994

- Roadways past & present
- *Two-way streets*
- **Givin' way da 'hood**
- On the Information Highway and other strictly local stuff. . . .

A Publication of the DEPOT TOWN ASSOCIATION, INC. The Old Caboose, 400 Market Place, Ypsilanti, MI 48198

100

Street talk:

The most memorable neighborhoods in the modern world seem to attribute their ambiance to their realtionship with the street and traffic. Many of today's new urban developments seem to turn their attention *away* from the very traffic that feeds them. On these pages Depot Towners reflect upon the heritage that is their street - the crossroads of Cross and River Streets.

You can't take Depot Street to Depot Town. Depot Street is in Ann Arbor and it goes past a restaurant called the Gandy Dancer. Neither will you find the Beer Depot, Depot Florists, The Venetian Blind Depot nor the Home Depot on that street.

Ypsilanti's streets are not the easiest to follow if you're a first-time visitor. Main Street isn't called that; it's Michigan Avenue- and it follows an ancient Indian Trail that doesn't even go to Ann Arbor. The railroad tracks and the Interstate generally follow the same route, but are not at all articulated with each other.

Cross Street may cross the river, but that's not how it got its name. River Street, ironically, parallels the Huron River, while Huron Street runs along the other side of it. Huron River Drive, on the other hand, only follows the River if you've a degree in Geography. It looks good on the signs, though.

To suggest that Huron Street was named for Native Americans will only get you in an argument with EMU alumni and sports fans. Maybe it was named for the river, but what's the river named for?

In the 1970s the city found it necessary to erect signs to direct people to the Depot Town district and avoid its redundant system of one-way streets. After the tourists find this place they show great surprise at our behavior in the streets. People wave and holler. Sometimes they stand in the street and talk. Cars turn around in the middle of the block and - at festival times - the locals park old vehicles right in the middle of the widest street, seemingly blocking the pedestrian traffic.

While other towns have parking meters and not enough parking spaces, the folks in this historic district seem to have achieved some comfortable balance with their machinery and actually enjoy the rush of the vehicular traffic that brings them to and from the area.

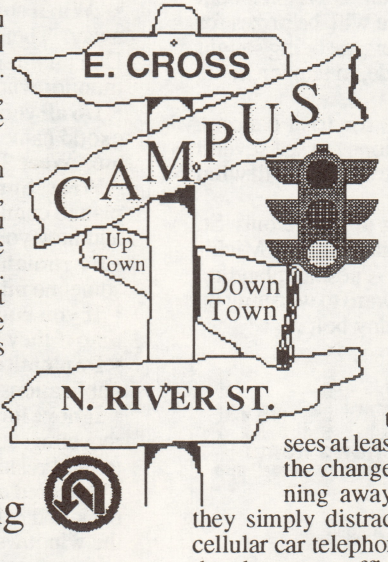
It's just a little street where old friends meet

Actually, it's several streets in this small commercial district: Cross, River, Ninde, Depot, Photo and Rice. Some businesses even use the Market Plaza as their address. Nevertheless, locals refer to the "action on the street" in a most positive manner and a typical greeting along these thoroughfares is, "What's happening on the street?"

• "Just follow your nose; you can't miss it," says the local giver of directions to the tourist. And, when we know the way, we think everyone else will see it the same way we see it.

After turning into your own driveway for half your lifetime, it becomes automatic and you don't have to read your house number or street sign any more.

Depot Town's certainly not on a straight line with anywhere else, and many believe that's what saved it over the years.



U-turns encouraged? Can angle parking be far behind?

The city traffic department certainly isn't going to hang a new sign saying, "U-Turns Permitted During Business Hours," but everybody knows it's O.K. to turn around in Depot Town. And that's not a play on words, either, but Depot Town's 'turn-around' could easily be traced to the fact that many of the old ways are still good practices in the modern world of business. Just as it was a good idea to lower a gate and stop all the traffic from time to time, so is it a good idea to let drivers reverse direction and head back to a parking space on the other side of the street.

Past City Managers have protested that angle parking is prohibited by the State of Michigan, but many communities do not observe that dictum and still enjoy sitting in their cars on Friday night and seeing everyone in town parade past their hood ornaments. Some locals have suggest that, since there are no lines painted on the pavement, we could just start parking that way again some Monday morning and forget about counting our votes before City Council meeting. We'd say, "It's always been that way."

• One hallmark of the industrial revolution was to rate towns by the number of traffic signals they had. Ypsilanti probably won't really be considered a Real City until it gets a traffic light at the corner of North Huron and East Cross. Until that time, the intersection continues to be a playground for today's bad drivers.

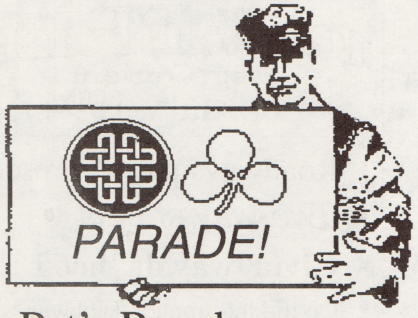
• Has anyone else noticed how nearly every traffic light's change to red sees at least one driver speed through the change of lights? Are they running away from car-jackers or are they simply distracted as they talk on their cellular car telephone? It has been suggested that the same traffic ticket be given for phone use as for drunk driving.

• The highest attendance at recent DTA meetings was last year when a decision had to be made about the wording of parking signs on the block and business folks now park farthest away from their doors so that customers can use the 'prime' parking spots.

Several roads met in this wood and we . . . . . we chose the ones most loved

Robert Frost might have become confused in Ypsilanti. Maybe that's why the poet lived in Ann Arbor for a while. And he'd be even more confused if he tried to find his old house on Pontiac Trail. Henry Ford bought it and moved it to Dearborn.

When Frost ruminated poetically about choosing "the road less taken," he only had two to choose from. In Ypsilanti we've had to make the choice several times. Over the past 163 years we've stuck with the railroad and its adjacent surface travel.



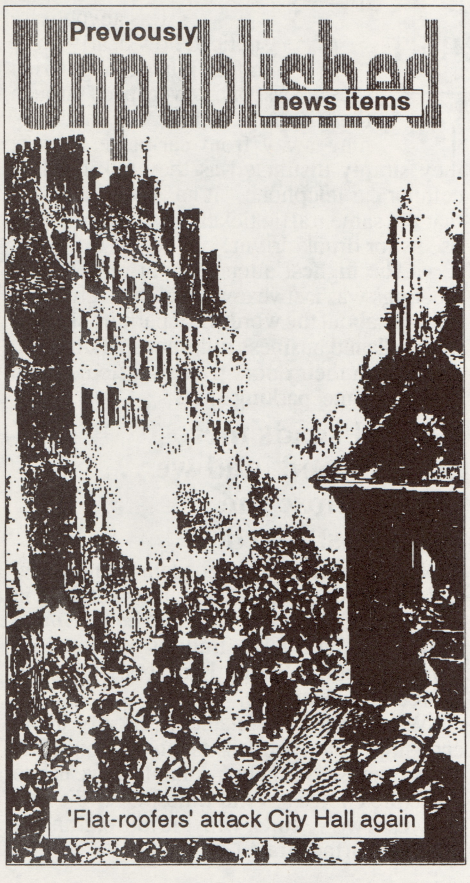
St. Pat's Parade only one in the state

Detroit's Gaelic League has invited the newly formed Gaelic League of Ypsilanti to be among the guests of honor at their parade on the Sunday before St. Patrick's Day this year, leaving Ypsilanti's parade from the Water Tower to Depot Town the only event in Michigan which will happen on that actual ethnic holiday.

Bands from local high schools will lead the event and Sidetrack's Dave French says there are plans for still more musical groups to participate. Judi Monaghan, DTA president and parade chair, says there will be prizes for floats and still more sponsors are being sought for this, the first Irish parade, to happen in the area in many years.

"Here is a perfect place for Irish dancers, too," says Judi, who also hopes to see several campus tie-ins to the noon event that will wind up down at the depot.

French says, "It's going to be the only St. Patrick's Day Parade in the State of Michigan," but he and the every-Tuesday planning committee are looking forward to warming up at Detroit's event the Sunday before.



How to give away your neighborhood

"Across America," says *Parade* magazine, "some communities are saying 'enough'." And, like many of the tabloid/weeklies, they follow with a feature item headlined "How To Take Back Your Neighborhood." As far as we know, nobody ever published an article that told how to give it away in the first place — until now. Some folks down in Ypsilanti's depot district can remember how and why the 'good old days' returned, but few will admit how those good times got lost in the first place.

For anyone who's tired of being neighborly and wants to get a great new project started, here are some terribly easy ways to dump your district into a quick and dizzying decline:

- **Don't talk to anybody.** If they're strangers, don't trust 'em. Don't introduce yourself to the folks next door, upstairs, or across the street. Don't say 'hello' when you meet someone on the street. Look at the sidewalk; never meet their eye. Act like you're new in town and you'll be able to keep that pose forever.
- **When someone toots a car horn, give them a hostile hand signal.** Who do they think they are, anyway? Why don't they just mind their own business and keep to themselves? Look up that new ordinance that tries to make it illegal to wave at folk on the street. (Really!)
- **Tear the front porch off your house and put a patio in the back yard.** That way, you'll only have to greet people you already know. You won't have to bother chatting with people as they pass on the sidewalk and, unless you've invited them in, you can just keep to yourself. Put up a high board fence around your back yard and you won't even have to acknowledge your adjacent neighbors keeping to themselves out on *their* back decks.
- **Hold an annual block party** to celebrate something and make sure everyone knows it's an *annual* night out. Make a big PR statement about keeping the criminals and drug dealers out for that night, at least. When the event is over, turn off your light for another year and go back down into the basement and start planning for next year's big event.
- **When someone does something rude or awkward,** ignore them and maybe they'll go away. Then go home and complain that the police are never around when you need them. Don't try to point out local standards or you'll start looking like that old school teacher hall monitor who always looked so silly.
- **Do all your shopping in another town** so no one will think you're a hick. Carry bags with exotic names from other neighborhoods so your neighbors can see how cosmopolitan you are. Wear T-shirts saying, "I heart NY," or "Somebody Else's Street Art Fair."
- **Wear 'Survivor!' slogans** on your T-shirts, indicating that you started out as a 'victim' and plan to continue that posture into your next crisis. Always be ready to tell how awful it was and how you'll never take that risk again. Set yourself up for failure.
- **Be romantic;** tell about the other wonderful places you've been. Avoid provincialism; someone might think you actually like it here.
- **If you run a shop, don't post the hours on the front door.** Let 'em come back another time if they really want to buy something somewhere other than at a mall.
- **Don't take a local paper.** You can be delightfully uninformed if you only take New York publications and no one can blame you if you don't know what's going on.
- **Ignore local elections.** Local stuff like schools, garbage, the library, community college, recycling, streets, and social services aren't terribly important compared to who gets invited to the President's innaugural ball in Washington, D.C.
- **Turn out all the lights when you leave.** If you're running a store, let those customers come back in the daylight to see what's in your window. If you're leaving your apartment, cover the windows so it looks like an abandoned building. Keep it nice and dark and no one will ever suspect anything.

Aubree's
SALOON
35 East Cross Street
Since 1873

Ike's Depot
483-6300
BARBERSHOP
40 East Cross

Midge Prybyla 941-2356
Sandy Hoag 481-8797
Studio 485-2164
REMINGTON-WALKER
Design Associates
Antiques - Interior Accents
19 East Cross Street
Friday 6-9 pm
Saturday 10-5 pm
Sunday 1-5 pm

Cheesy new slogans to spiff up district's fourth promotional brochure

"A little business down by the station ... and the rest is history!" will be the slogan on the letter-size two-sider being prepared this month for distribution through Ypsilanti's Visitors & Convention Bureau.

"People want some indication of history," said VCB boss, Mary Kerr, last month.

Along with the slogan is a drawing of the 1893 crossing guard tower and the sub-headline: "40 charming shops, restaurants, saloons ... and more in a 164-year-old shopping center." The bottom of the page will feature the parody of NASA's space program logo: "Depot Town *is* what America *was*!" *Rag* editor, Tom Dodd, who claims he didn't want to do this in the first place, said, "It's a cheesy slogan that we've used before, but it tells the story. We're just like eveyone thinks they remember about the old days."

On the flip side of the document is a bird's-eye view of the district and the following copy, "Depot Town: The original mall mentality begun in 19th century Michigan Territory and much appreciated today: Restaurants, saloons, coffeeshops • Antique furniture, automobiles & clothing • Flowers, frames & fine artistry • Bumpshops, trains, ducks, and the river • Gift, barber and beauty shops • Fishing, sledding and waving at trains • Concerts, parades, festivals & fun • Tourists treated the same as home folks."

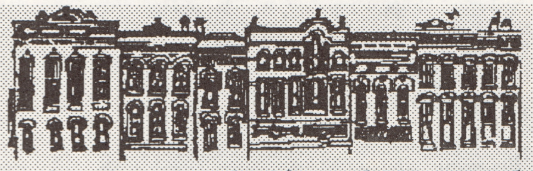
A line each, touting the weekly Farmers' Market and DTA's return address, finishes the panel of information. Expected to be printed in two greens and black, the piece will emulate the tower and kisosk colors schemes.

After running out of promotional materials three years ago followed by four months of 'noodling' over what such a new document might say, members at January's DTA meeting approved this short cut as "adequate for the time being." Rather than solicit information and funds from businesses, DTA will cover the cost of printing this version up to $1000.

Hottest little corner bar & grill in town!
Rated best burgers! - *Detroit Monthly*
SIDETRACK Bar & Grill
• 8 beers on draught
Ypsilanti's Hottest Bar!
56 E. Cross • 483-1035

One bedroom apartment March 1
One-person unit, carpeted, ceramic tile in bath and kitchen. Stove, refrigerator, gas heat, electric water heater.
483-4256 or 483-6371

Dateline: Depot Town:



A Neighborhood Forgotten by Time (and Life and Newsweek)

Co-op's new awning continues move toward more color on district's facades

Creating an exact match of their new light blue trim color on the Millworks Building, the new awning at the Ypsilanti Food Co-op efffectely marks their entry and main showwindow of that block-long building.

Another great, new awning at Olde Towne Coin & Gold

Continuing their elegant green and gold color scheme, Sharon, Richard and Troy Robine's entry is made both welcoming and charming by the installation of their new shed-style awning.

Picking up the colors of their signs, trim and window neon, the newly accented entrance gives a sprightly lift to the facade of what was originally a humble gas station. Long since removed, a frame addition on the side of City Body was part of the same Pure Gas enterprise. In later years it became Ypsilanti's most popular beer take-out store, then lay abandoned for several years and was torn down in the early eighties.

Robine's complete rehab of the building since they have taken ownership has certainly transformed what was once a single-bay garage in the 'Pure' service station on this block. Today, the Coin & Gold shop shows quality classics and collectibles in graceful glass-topped counters which encircle the shop. It's another friendly place in this block where the shopper is immediately greeted up entry.

Depot Town's welcome signs continue to be more effective than either discount store slogans or cute 'warmth buttons' on cashiers in the check-out aisles. Olde Towne's new entry is another promise that comes true in this block.

James MacDonald's Antiques
29 East Cross • 481-0555
Apple Annie's Vintage Clothing

Hon's Flowers
46 East Cross
482-2124

An awning revival?

In recent years the canvas awning has been rediscoverd as a colorful way to get a big sign and some welcome protection from sun and rain. It's changeable, too, say district shop owners who keep their facade up to date.

At the Ypsilanti Food Co-op...

. . . February's edition of *Cooking Encounters* will feature Heart Smart Health -- a lowfat approach to planning meal menus. February is also National Heart Month and we will have information available about fats in our diet and recipes and methods to minimize fats for a healthy heart. Join us on Saturday, February 12th from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

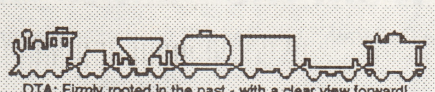
On Monday, February 21 at 3 p.m. all intrested shoppers are invited to attend an orientation to learn about co-op shopping and membership benefits and receive a 15% dicsount on purchases made the day of the orientation -- or apply the time toward a volunteer discount.

The Ypsilanti Food Co-op is located at 312 North River Street in Ypsilanti's historic Depot Town. For more information call 483-1520.

Vote for Leadership for a Change!
Elect
Terry McDonald
Democrat

Fifth Ward
City Council Representative
MONDAY FEBRUARY 21
TERRY MCDONALD
WORKING FOR YOU!
Paid for by the McDonald for Council Committee

Depot Town Association, Inc., 20 January 1994


DTA: Firmly rooted in the past - with a clear view forward!

President Judi Monaghan chaired **the meeting at the Daily Grind.**

Minutes were accepted as published and the **treasury** holds $8374.00. Two new *Rag* sponsors have paid and a bill is outstanding for $195 for greens and ribbons for holiday decorations in the block.

Rag Report: This month's issue features the district's streets.

Farmers' Market Advisory Board reports the coffeeshop will soon be smoke free, long term leases are now available, advisory status soon to be appointed by City Council for two-year terms. Pam Hamblin and Gary McKeever will represent the Association.

No report from the **Depot Town Downtown Development Authority.** Prices are still coming in on winterizing the old caboose.

Victorian Holiday: Sandy Hoag will chair the event this year. Greens will be taken down soon. DPW is still hoping to erect the winter banners on the light poles.

Shoppers' Survey is still not ready for distribution to merchants. Examples for the last survey in 1991 were distributed.

Brochure: No report yet on the proposed brochure. In its place, a simpler, two-sided broadside was approved with $1000 maximum printing expenses approved.

St. Patrick's Day Parade is set for noon Thursday, March 17, for the Water Tower to Depot Town. The Gaelic League of Ypsilanti still hopes to see some family events planned for the Freight House and is looking for Irish or clog dancers.

Directory Kiosk has not been updated, waiting for more information from River Street businesses. A few businesses will have to double up on their listing to fit the available space. Judi Monaghan will continue this.

Ypsilanti Heritage Fest's first planning meeting is next week. Will there be a jazz tent? Where? What street events are desired for the district? Will there be two competing stages? Victorian clothing contest needs better judges if it's going to happen again.

EMU's Gerry Beaugrand is already planning for next October's **EMU Parents' Day** and merchants need to evaluate the most recent one to determine the district's level of involvement. Are bus loads of visitors preferable to walking tours? Decide in February.

Events:

New Year's Jubilee drew a big crowd. Thanks to all who helped in the Freighthouse.

Ypsilanti Street Rods are going back to Ford Lake Park for their May 1 event.

Next meeting: 7:30 pm, 17 Feb., Daily Grind.

1993 Victorian Holiday window awards:

DTA volunteers toured the block and December 23, 1993 and awarded in the following categories. Each participant received an ornamental momento of the occasion and a certificate suitable for framing. Memberhip is the judging crew has traditionally been formed at the December DTA meeting and all are welcome to join the activity again in 1993.

- **Apple Annie/Jim MacDonald's** - Carolers in the Woods
- **Aubree's/Sticks** - Best use of red & green neon
- **BJ's Sports Cards** - Best Basketball window
- **Cady's Grill** - Best use of plaid
- **City Body** - Most businesslike atmosphere
- **Cross Street Antiques** - Best display of old glass ornaments
- **Depot Doo** - Blondest tree
- **Depot Exchange** - Best blizzard
- **Depot Town Counseling Center** - Most discrete
- **Depot Town Travel** - Quiet elegance uniting the neighbors
- **Designs on You** - Best party window
- **Esquire** - Swaggiest elegance & Mrs. Claus' sewing room
- **Hon's** - Coziest nook in the neighborhood (and we loved the vertically challenged trio!)
- **Ike's Barbershop** - Best old-fashioned childrens' tree
- **Leon's Secret Garden** - Best use of purple and chocolate & most lights
- **Miller's Ice Cream** - Most presents
- **Old Town Café** - Most red velvet
- **Olde Towne Coin & Gold** - It's all under the new awning
- **Red Rooster** - Most imaginative use of holiday wrap
- **Remington-Walker** - Fantasyland
- **Richard Reid's Hair Station** - Best Snowstorm
- **River Artworks** - Most Victorian
- **Shear Genius** - Best collection of holiday ceramics
- **Sidetrack** - Most spectacular corner
- **Standard Printing** - Best miniature sleigh
- **The Daily Grind** - Best coffee that used to have a wreath
- **Winding River Originals** - Fanciest stockings

Please include me among the members of
The Depot Town Association, Inc.

DTA

Name _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Annual dues:
- ☐ $25 Regular Member
- ☐ $10 Associate Member
- ☐ $100 Life Member

✂ Clip and send check to "Depot Town Association" c/o The Old Caboose, 400 Market Place, Ypsilanti, MI 48198

Strictly local stuff:
February 1994

Depot Towners are invited to participate in any or all of the following activities for the good of this old commercial district:

- **D'town Development Authority**
  8 a.m. Wednesday, 2nd
  at The Daily Grind
- **Depot Town Association**
  7:30 p.m. Thursday, 17th
  at the Sidetrack Grill
- **Depot Town Antique Engine Club**
  7:30 pm Thursday, 24th
  at the Freighthouse Coffeeshop

THE DEPOT TOWN RAG

A publication of the Depot Town Association, Inc. a nonprofit, tax-exempt corporation dedicated to preserving the unique character of the neighborhood and to the enhancement of its business climate. -Tom Dodd, editor

The Depot Town Association, Inc.
Judi D. Monaghan, president
c/o The Old Caboose
400 Market Place
Ypsilanti, Michigan 48198

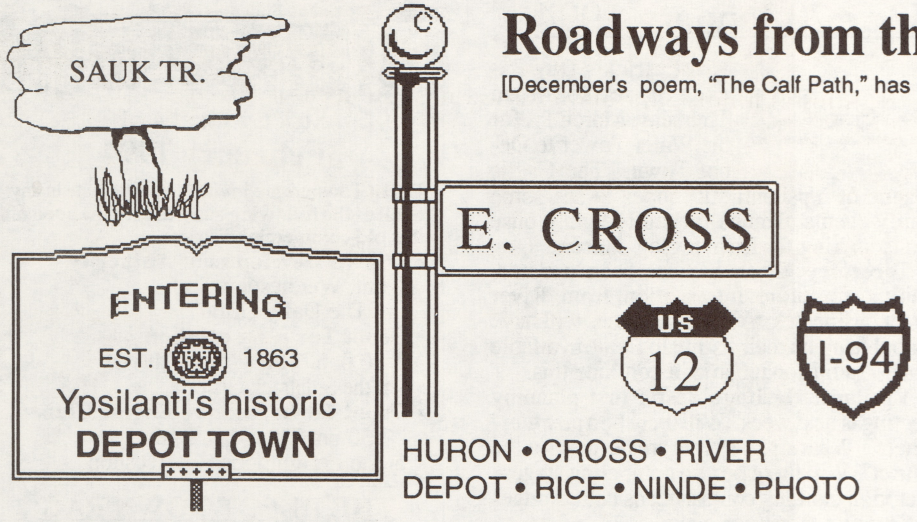
You can rent
The Old Caboose

. . . for your party, dinner, or meeting . . .
($25 + deposit) **Call 483-4256**

Stick it in *The Rag*
for only $10 month.
You can't get any more local than this!
Send your copy to The Old Caboose by the 3rd Thursday and you'll see your ad here the following month.
Many payment plans. Trust us.
The Depot Town Rag:
All the news in one block in one month

Happy Valentine's Day

Hansen's
STANDARD PRINTING
35 E. Cross Street • Ypsilanti, Michigan
Tel: (313) 483-0339 • Fax: (313) 483-3130
In The Heart of Depot Town



Roadways from the past to the present

[December's poem, "The Calf Path," has inspired us to examine our streets more closely]

"I found love on a two-way street - - and lost it on the lonely highway"

How did those streets down by the old depot ever change so much? Why are there so few places that look like they used to? It's a long and simple historical fact:

In order to have a new common enemy after World War II, American politicians focused their public relations talents upon "the threat of Communism" and were able to turn over greater numbers of tax dollars (and keep the populace scared) through a variety of "National *Defense* Acts." The Communists launched Sputnik and we had the National *Defense* Education Act to turn all our junior high science fair finalists into nuclear engineers. As a result, the National *Defense* Transportation Act permitted the country to create a vast system of interstate highways to - presumably - move missles from town to town and for the general populace to escape nuclear destruction by getting into their automobiles and tooling down a highway a few miles.

In the 1950's the local electric companies boasted of the Enrico Fermi nuclear power plant they were building on the shore of Lake Erie, telling how electricity would be nearly free by the completion of the project — in a few years. No more fossil fuels would pollute the environment, it would never get dark again, and it would cost almost nothing. [Could they be the the same folks who said the metric system was right around the corner, too?]

Suddenly, the Modern Age was upon us and we knew those Buck Rogers cartoons were going to come true. We expected to be landing our own private helicopter on the roof any year then. Depot Towners excpected to see skyway ramps descending to the depot and jet speedboat launchings toward the Great Lakes from Riverside Park.

Tom Shawver, chief public information officer for 24 years of the Michgan Department of Transportation, has published *Celebrate our Intersate!* in *Michigan History* magazine in which he details the 1,241 miles of Michigan's portion of this freeway building boom. That's part of the national system of federal Interstate and Defense Highways which meander for 44,000 miles through our land.

In AAA's *Michigan Living* (January 1993), Shawver says, "The interstates have had a profound effect on Michgain and the nation, and on transportation systems and people's lives. They have altered the landacape, influenced industrial and urban planning and living patterns, plus commercial development."

He goes on to laud how they "made driving faster, easier, and considerably safer" and is happy the "accident and death rate is less than a third of the rate on other types of highways." Apparently he's talking about the deaths of people, not communities.

True, there are whole new communities of gas stations and fast food joints at almost every interchange. Strip malls and condo complexes have formed around these clogged arteries and even glass-fronted jewelry stores are being saved by architectural preservationists. The first MacDonald's drive-in has become a national shrine.

The 'smile' of Michigan has been described as that prairie stretching across the lower peninsula at the southern boundaries of the great forest. North of that line, early trappers sent spotter' up tall oaks at night to orient themselves from stellar readings. The rest of the forest floor was in continual near-darkness. The 'smile' gave easier ground on which to traverse the land between Toledo/Detroit and Chicago.

The first recognizable man-made markings along that route were later known as the Sauk Trail - a pathway created by constant east/west tribal migration. Trappers soon followed the native route and a crude roadway was established.

Depot Town kids love to wade the Huron River and estimate where Native Americans and early pioneers may have crossed before the first bridges went up. Most of the arrowheads around Riverside Park's location of Godfroy's Trading Post have long since been added to family collections and the Ypsilanti Historical Museum.

Michigan Avenue replaced the informal trails and connected the dynamic outposts of Detroit and Chicago. Most of the communities along the way were happy with the name and acquiesced to helping create the longest-named street in the world. [The Lincoln Highway, they said later, wasn't a street, but a 'highway.' Interstates, apparently, don't count, since they don't have names, but numbers. Detroit tried to name them, but Ford, Lodge, Jeffries, *et al*, seem to end at the city limits; they're just numbers out in the 'burbs.]

The Kalamazoo Canal failed in its ditch across the palm, but a second railroad, the Michigan Central, closely followed the towns along Michigan Avenue. There was great opposition, as well as terrific pride, shown to this technological wonder. 'Ginners' said the trains would kill all the wildlife, start fires, and wipe out the herds of domestic farm animals along the right-of-way. The trains would be dirty, too, and spread soot all over the neat little towns the entered. They were right, — but they lost.

Ypsilanti's Cross Street was made wide enough for a team and hitch to turn around at the depot, since that's where the new center of commerce would be located. Some neighborhoods were glad to be out of the way of the coming track, while others lobbied to be just as close to the action as possible. The latter saw the ideal business location wedged in right between the depot and the bank.

Then came what some call the beginning of the end of the Industrial Revolution. Airplanes, Communism and Computers seemed to change everything . . .

But some roadways seem to change less than others. As we return to the places of our childhood and hope that nothing's going to be any different, we must remember 'Shoe,' the cartoon character who, when told "They want to take the downtown back to what it was orginally," asked what it had been originally. "Trees, mostly," was the reply. Hmmm?

Baked On Automotive Finishes • Complete Collision Repair
CITY BODY EST. 1930
CARSTAR
20 E. Cross Street
482-4737 • 482-9353 • Fax: 482-0181
Scott Sobbry Bruce Sobbry

TED'S
Auto Electric
307 North River • 483-1238

This month's special 'transportation & street issue' advertising section:

Freeman Bunting Insurance Agency
107 West Michigan Avenue
Ypsilanti, Michigan 48197

Telephone: 482-4732
• Betty Campbell • Jim Campbell
• Nancy Petosky • Chuck Conklin
• Mary Lou Linke

Security through insurance since 1921

Designs On You & Treasures
• Boutique items
• Alterations
• Custom clothing
• Quality designer resale
Brenda Knox, owner

Also available:
"The Traveling Boutique,"
...a private showing of high fashion jewelry & apparel
Your place or ours
Image consultant:
Carolyn Malone

Planning a Fund Raiser?! Let us Plan and Organize a Fashion Show for You!

27 East Cross • 482-2010
Tuesday - Friday 10 - 5:30 Saturdays 10-4:30

Gregory L. Dodd
Attorney at Law

• Family Law
• Criminal Law
• Probate, Wills, and Trusts
• Personal Injury
300 N. Huron, Ypsilanti MI 48197
313-487-2611

Depot Doo

Fine Design in Hair Style
25 East Cross • 484-3045

Ad Art
313-483-4256
517-592-8708
Design and Layout
Typeset for ads, brochures, books, manuscripts, resumés, catalogues.
Complete production, graphics, consulting

A Depot Town SAMPLER

Will there be parking meters along the coming Information Highway?

•

"On the road again" is what locals must be humming when they stand next to the traffic lane and chat. Watch out for us. We've been doing this for years. So do our dogs.

•

"On the Street Where You Live" has become a prestigious slogan for the cliff dwellers in this block. Depot Town's upper floors are constantly occupied with a waiting list of folks just waiting to get in. Many residents boast more than a ten-year stay here.

•

"Street-wise" in Ypsilanti usually means being able to figure out our clunky one-way pattern between here and downtown and campus. Our 'anchors' triangulate the grid - and that's difficult for new kids to figure out.

•

"Out on the streets" is not a derogatory term, but one of being 'in touch' with what's going on down by the depot. It's the area's best way of publicizing and keeping in touch.

•

Don't confuse "street talk" with "gutter talk." The former is what's wise and inclusive. The latter still means what your mother told you it meant. Nothing's changed there, either.

•

"Streetwalkers" in this block have always meant "window shoppers" and people who walk and wave at everybody. Down here it's considered 'normal' to smile and wave at people you think you might know.

•

Tangentially, sidewalks not cleared of snow and ice are an indication that the shopfolks don't want you to come in, anyway. Report them to the City and they'll have to pay a fine for their negligence.

•

"Sunny side of the street" indicates the kind of news our readers like to read about life in Ypsilanti's historic Depot Town.
They look for it here . . . in *The Rag*.

Ypsilanti's FARMERS' MARKET

5th - Workshop:
Dried Plants & Flowers
12th - Valentines craft show
19th - Youth Sales Day
Sports Card "Trading Zone"
26th - Community Health & Safety Day

Wednesday and Saturday
Open all year in the railroad freighthouse
For information: 483-1480

DAILY GRIND
COFFEE HOUSE
• Cappuccino
• Espresso
• Flavored Coffee
• Pastries
• Muffins
• Cocoa-cino
• Scones
• Cheesecake
• Bottled Water
21 East Cross Street **482-0440**
Mon - Sat 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. Sun - 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Cooking Encounters:
Heart Smart Health
a lowfat approach to planning meal menus.
National Heart Month
11 am - 4 pm
Saturday,
February 12

Sun. 12-5, M,T,Th, F 10-8 Wed. 10-9 Sat. 9-8
312 N. RIVER ST. 483-1520

• Custom Draperies
• Vertical Blinds
• 1" Blinds
• Shutters
• Shades
• Wallpaper
• Installation
• Repairs

Esquire Custom Drapery & Blinds SINCE 1953

Ann Arbor 663-7011 • Ypsilanti 482-6338
10 E. Cross St. Ypsilanti, MI 48198

Don't get your hair done just anywhere . . .
. . . get it done at
Richard Reid's Hair Station
50 E. Cross Street • 485-8228
in historic Depot Town

This is a non-smoking environment

Angela, Mary, Joyce, Richard, Lynn